

Application Number 10/533489
Response to the Office Action mailed March 23, 2009

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1, 3, 4, and 34 are amended. Applicants have not added new matter; support for the amendments is given in the canceled claims. Claims 2, 5, and 18-33 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-17, and 34 are pending.

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-4 and 6-7 are rejected as being obvious over AAPA and Tsunoda '068. Without conceding the correctness of the rejection, Applicants amend claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claims 2 and 5. Claim 5 is allowable; claim 1 now incorporates the limitations of claim 5, the base claim 1 and intervening claim 2. Claims 2 and 5 are canceled. Claims 3 and 4 are amended to be dependent upon claim 1. Applicants request the allowance of claims 1, 3-4, 6-7.

Claims 8-17 are allowable.

Claim 34 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form incorporating all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 34 was dependent upon claim 1 as amended in the Amendment and Response facsimile transmitted on 11 December 2008; Claim 34 now incorporates the limitations of that claim. Applicants request the allowance of claim 34.

Having thus put the rejected and the objected-to claims in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the application be passed to issuance.

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If there are any remaining issues that can be easily resolved with a telephone call, the Examiner is invited to call the attorney of record, Mr. Douglas P. Mueller at (612) 455-3804.



Dated: June 19, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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